

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Interview Summary mailed November 16, 2004. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-27 and 29-32 are requested.

Statement of Substance of Interview

On November 8, 2004, the Examiner telephoned Applicants' attorney. The Examiner stated that the amendment filed on August 27, 2004, presented species claims and required an election of species between each of claims 1, 6, 7, 29, and 32.

Response to Election Requirement

Applicants elect claim 7, with traverse. Applicants have amended claims 2-14 and 29-32 to depend from claim 7 and request that these claims also be considered. Applicants also request rejoinder of claims 15-26, should claim 7 be determined to be allowable.

Applicants submit that the Election requirement is improper because independent claim 6 has already been searched and thus no further search is needed. Applicants have amended claim 6 to include all of the elements of previously examined claim 6. Applicants respectfully request that claim 6 be rejoined.

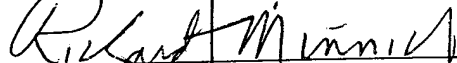
CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that claims 1-27 and 29-32 distinguish patentably over the references of record and meet all statutory requirements. An early allowance of all claims is requested.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, she is requested to telephone Ann M. Skerry at (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

**FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & MCKEE, LLP**



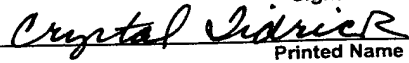
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December 8, 2004
Date

Certificate of Mailing

- Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I certify that this Amendment is being
- ☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail, addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S) : Gerhard E. Welsch, et al.
TITLE : **METAL SPONGES FOR RAPID
SURFACE-CHEMICAL
REACTIONS**
APPLICATION NO. : 09/914,517
FILED : April 29, 2002
CONFIRMATION NO. : 4366
EXAMINER : Tracy Mae Dove
ART UNIT : 1745
LAST OFFICE ACTION : July 29, 2004
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : CWRZ 2 00269
Cleveland, OH 44114
December 7, 2004

APPENDIX

Proposed Drawing Changes

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT NO FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants propose amending FIGURE 2, as shown in red, to show the reaction surface **36** and active layer **39**, referred to in the specification at page 7, lines 26-27 and page 8, lines 1-5. Applicants propose adding FIGURES 11A, 11B 11C, and 11D, as shown in the parent PCT application, as filed. FIGURES 2 and 11A, 11B 11C, and 11D are attached.